Guidelines on Conversion of Highways in Hilly Areas

3337. SHRI SURYABHAN PATIL VAHADANE: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the guidelines for inclusion of State Highways as National Highways in hilly and rural areas;

(b) whether Government have any proposal to include Shimla-Chirgaon Road into National Highway;

(c) if so, by when, and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) The criteria for the declaration .of State road into National Highway is as under:—

(i) Roads which run through the length and breadth of the country.

(ii) Roads connecting adjacent countries;

(iii) Roads connecting the National Capital with State capital and roads connecting mutually the State capitals;

(iv) Roads connecting major ports, large industrial centres or tourist centres;

(v) Roads meeting very important strategic requirements;

(vi) Arterial roads which enable sizeable reduction in travel distance and achieve substantial economic growth thereby;

(vii) Roads which help opening up large tracts of backward area and hilly regions;

(viii) National Highway grid of 100 Km is achieved.

Further the declaration of National Highways is considered based on the requirements of the country as a whole and not particularly with respect to any local requirements.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) There is no such proposal with the Central Government.